



## Earth Teams' 25th Anniversary Celebration April 26, 2010 at USDA Headquarters--Whitten Building



National Earth Team volunteer award winners stand with guest speakers at the National Earth Team ceremony held at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C., on Monday, April 26, 2010. Participants gathered to recognize national Earth Team award winners and to celebrate Earth Team's 25th anniversary. (Standing L to R) USDA Deputy Undersecretary Ann Mills; NRCS National Volunteer Coordinator Michele Eginore; NRCS Chief Dave White; Volunteer Coordinator Award winner Joanna Pope, Nebraska; District Secretary Gayle Roussel, New River SWCD-Donaldson Field Office, representing the Group Volunteer Award winner the

"Fast Food Farm," Louisiana; District Conservationist Kelly Shrable representing the Chief's Field Award winner Salem Field Service Center, Arkansas; NRCS National Employee Award winner Mary Giles, Missouri; Special Recognition Award winner Richard Casale, California; Kansas State Volunteer Coordinator Jan Klaus representing the Volunteer Service Award-Chief's Cup winner Kansas NRCS; District Conservationist Dean Moberg, Oregon, representing the Individual Volunteer Award winner Amy Plavak; First NRCS National Earth Team Coordinator Judy Johnson and NRCS National Volunteer Liaison Bonnie Allely.

*by Joanna Pope,  
Nebraska State Earth Team Volunteer Coordinator*

the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older has increased by 25 percent, and the number of people 75 years of age or older has increased by 40 percent. The number of people 85 years of age or older has increased by 60 percent. The number of people 95 years of age or older has increased by 100 percent. The number of people 100 years of age or older has increased by 200 percent. The number of people 105 years of age or older has increased by 400 percent. The number of people 110 years of age or older has increased by 800 percent. The number of people 115 years of age or older has increased by 1,600 percent. The number of people 120 years of age or older has increased by 3,200 percent. The number of people 125 years of age or older has increased by 6,400 percent. The number of people 130 years of age or older has increased by 12,800 percent. The number of people 135 years of age or older has increased by 25,600 percent. The number of people 140 years of age or older has increased by 51,200 percent. The number of people 145 years of age or older has increased by 102,400 percent. The number of people 150 years of age or older has increased by 204,800 percent. The number of people 155 years of age or older has increased by 409,600 percent. The number of people 160 years of age or older has increased by 819,200 percent. The number of people 165 years of age or older has increased by 1,638,400 percent. The number of people 170 years of age or older has increased by 3,276,800 percent. The number of people 175 years of age or older has increased by 6,553,600 percent. The number of people 180 years of age or older has increased by 13,107,200 percent. The number of people 185 years of age or older has increased by 26,214,400 percent. The number of people 190 years of age or older has increased by 52,428,800 percent. The number of people 195 years of age or older has increased by 104,857,600 percent. The number of people 200 years of age or older has increased by 209,715,200 percent. The number of people 205 years of age or older has increased by 419,430,400 percent. The number of people 210 years of age or older has increased by 838,860,800 percent. The number of people 215 years of age or older has increased by 1,677,721,600 percent. The number of people 220 years of age or older has increased by 3,355,443,200 percent. The number of people 225 years of age or older has increased by 6,710,886,400 percent. The number of people 230 years of age or older has increased by 13,421,772,800 percent. The number of people 235 years of age or older has increased by 26,843,545,600 percent. The number of people 240 years of age or older has increased by 53,687,091,200 percent. The number of people 245 years of age or older has increased by 107,374,182,400 percent. The number of people 250 years of age or older has increased by 214,748,364,800 percent. The number of people 255 years of age or older has increased by 429,496,729,600 percent. The number of people 260 years of age or older has increased by 858,993,459,200 percent. The number of people 265 years of age or older has increased by 1,717,986,918,400 percent. The number of people 270 years of age or older has increased by 3,435,973,836,800 percent. The number of people 275 years of age or older has increased by 6,871,947,673,600 percent. The number of people 280 years of age or older has increased by 13,743,895,347,200 percent. The number of people 285 years of age or older has increased by 27,487,790,694,400 percent. The number of people 290 years of age or older has increased by 54,975,581,388,800 percent. The number of people 295 years of age or older has increased by 109,951,162,777,600 percent. The number of people 300 years of age or older has increased by 219,902,325,555,200 percent. The number of people 305 years of age or older has increased by 439,804,651,110,400 percent. The number of people 310 years of age or older has increased by 879,609,302,220,800 percent. The number of people 315 years of age or older has increased by 1,759,218,604,441,600 percent. The number of people 320 years of age or older has increased by 3,518,437,208,883,200 percent. The number of people 325 years of age or older has increased by 7,036,874,417,766,400 percent. The number of people 330 years of age or older has increased by 14,073,748,835,532,800 percent. The number of people 335 years of age or older has increased by 28,147,497,671,065,600 percent. The number of people 340 years of age or older has increased by 56,294,995,342,131,200 percent. The number of people 345 years of age or older has increased by 112,589,990,684,262,400 percent. The number of people 350 years of age or older has increased by 225,179,981,368,524,800 percent. The number of people 355 years of age or older has increased by 450,359,962,737,049,600 percent. The number of people 360 years of age or older has increased by 900,719,925,474,099,200 percent. The number of people 365 years of age or older has increased by 1,801,439,850,948,198,400 percent. The number of people 370 years of age or older has increased by 3,602,879,701,896,396,800 percent. The number of people 375 years of age or older has increased by 7,205,759,403,792,793,600 percent. The number of people 380 years of age or older has increased by 14,411,518,807,585,587,200 percent. The number of people 385 years of age or older has increased by 28,823,037,615,171,174,400 percent. The number of people 390 years of age or older has increased by 57,646,075,230,342,348,800 percent. The number of people 395 years of age or older has increased by 115,292,150,460,684,697,600 percent. The number of people 400 years of age or older has increased by 230,584,300,921,369,395,200 percent. The number of people 405 years of age or older has increased by 461,168,601,842,738,790,400 percent. The number of people 410 years of age or older has increased by 922,337,203,685,477,580,800 percent. The number of people 415 years of age or older has increased by 1,844,674,407,370,955,161,600 percent. The number of people 420 years of age or older has increased by 3,689,348,814,741,910,323,200 percent. The number of people 425 years of age or older has increased by 7,378,697,629,483,820,646,400 percent. The number of people 430 years of age or older has increased by 14,757,395,258,967,641,292,800 percent. The number of people 435 years of age or older has increased by 29,514,790,517,935,282,585,600 percent. The number of people 440 years of age or older has increased by 59,029,581,035,870,565,171,200 percent. The number of people 445 years of age or older has increased by 118,059,162,071,741,130,342,400 percent. The number of people 450 years of age or older has increased by 236,118,324,143,482,260,684,800 percent. The number of people 455 years of age or older has increased by 472,236,648,286,964,521,369,600 percent. The number of people 460 years of age or older has increased by 944,473,296,573,929,042,739,200 percent. The number of people 465 years of age or older has increased by 1,888,946,593,147,858,085,478,400 percent. The number of people 470 years of age or older has increased by 3,777,893,186,295,716,170,956,800 percent. The number of people 475 years of age or older has increased by 7,555,786,372,591,432,341,913,600 percent. The number of people 480 years of age or older has increased by 15,111,572,745,182,864,683,827,200 percent. The number of people 485 years of age or older has increased by 30,223,145,490,365,729,367,654,400 percent. The number of people 490 years of age or older has increased by 60,446,290,980,731,458,735,308,800 percent. The number of people 495 years of age or older has increased by 120,892,581,961,462,917,470,617,600 percent. The number of people 500 years of age or older has increased by 241,785,163,922,925,834,941,235,200 percent. The number of people 505 years of age or older has increased by 483,570,327,845,851,669,882,470,400 percent. The number of people 510 years of age or older has increased by 967,140,655,691,703,339,764,940,800 percent. The number of people 515 years of age or older has increased by 1,934,281,311,383,406,679,529,881,600 percent. The number of people 520 years of age or older has increased by 3,868,562,622,766,813,359,059,763,200 percent. The number of people 525 years of age or older has increased by 7,737,125,245,533,626,718,119,526,400 percent. The number of people 530 years of age or older has increased by 15,474,250,491,067,253,436,239,052,800 percent. The number of people 535 years of age or older has increased by 30,948,500,982,134,506,872,478,105,600 percent. The number of people 540 years of age or older has increased by 61,897,001,964,269,013,744,956,211,200 percent. The number of people 545 years of age or older has increased by 123,794,003,928,538,027,489,912,422,400 percent. The number of people 550 years of age or older has increased by 247,588,007,857,076,054,979,824,844,800 percent. The number of people 555 years of age or older has increased by 495,176,015,714,152,109,959,649,689,600 percent. The number of people 560 years of age or older has increased by 990,352,031,428,304,219,919,299,379,200 percent. The number of people 565 years of age or older has increased by 1,980,704,062,856,608,439,838,598,758,400 percent. The number of people 570 years of age or older has increased by 3,961,408,125,713,216,879,677,197,516,800 percent. The number of people 575 years of age or older has increased by 7,922,816,251,426,433,759,354,395,033,600 percent. The number of people 580 years of age or older has increased by 15,845,63

Joanna Pope, 2009  
National Earth Team  
Volunteer Coordinator

Not exactly a great start to my state volunteer coordinator career!

""""Vjcv"oc{"jcxg"dggp"jqy"K"dgecog"vjg"uvcvg"  
volunteer coordinator for Nebraska, but I quickly

believers - my state conservationist and my assistant state conservationist for operations are both huge program will suffer. I also have extremely talented motivated, accountable, and most importantly, they make it much more fun! I'm very fortunate to have great help and you'll get great results.

*by Joanna Pope, Nebraska State  
Earth Team Volunteer Coordinator*

Biologist Cassidy Gerdes talks to stream monitoring Earth Team volunteers about stream sampling along the Bazile Creek in northeast Nebraska.



# California Celebrates Earth Day and Earth Team's 25th Anniversary

*Submitted by: Alejandra Luna, California State Office Earth Team Volunteer Coordinator*

""""Ecnkhqtpkc"PTEU"egngdctvgf"Gctvj"Fc{"d{"tgeqipk|kpi"Gctvj"Vgc o "xqnpvpggtu0"Cv"vjg"uvcvg"qhLeg"kp"Fcxku."Gctvj"Vgc o "xqnpvpggtu"ygtg"compqyngfigf"d{"Uvcvg"Eqpugtxcvkqpkuv"Gf"Dwtvqp0"Vjg"xqnpvpggtu0"uwr gtxkuqtu"fkuewuugf"each person's projects and contributions and they were given letters and tokens of appreciation for their hard work and dedication.

""""Kp"vjg"ctgc"qhLeg"kp"Htgupq."vjg"PTEU"uvchh"jgnf"cp"Gctvj"Fc{/Gctvj"Vgc o "rqvnwem"luncheon to celebrate the many volunteers yjq"cuukuygf"vjgkt"Lgnf"qhLeg"uvchh"vj tqw i j qwv"vjg{"gct0"ctgc"Eqpugtxcvkqpkuv"Ewtvu"Vctxgt"tgeqipk|gf"cnm"xqnpvpggtu."kpenwf kpi"htq o gt"Uqkn"Conservationist Clarence Finch, and thanked them for their service.

""""Vjg"Uqwvj"Eqcu"vTguqwteg"Eqpugtxcvkq"cpf"Fxgxnqr o gpv"Eqwpekn"qhLeg"kp"Tkxgtukfg"jgnf"cp"Gctvj"Vgc o "tgeqipkvkq"gxgpv"Cr tkn"4;0"Uvchh"htq o "vjg"pgctd{"ctgc"PTEU"qhLeg"cnuq"lqkpgf"vjg"egngdctvkqp0"Vjg"Gctvj"Vgc o "o g o dgtu"ygtg"recognized for helping the council with grant writing and project administration, the Fire Uw o o kv"rncppkpi"htw o "cpf"tqwvkpg"qhLeg"vcumu0"



The California NRCS state office employees celebrated Earth Day and the 25th anniversary of Earth Team by recognizing their Earth Team volunteers. Volunteers (from the left) Walt Sykes, Jerry Reiou, Charles Davis, Patricia Grover, and Walt Bunter were given letters and tokens of appreciation. Not pictured is Mario Milani. (Photo by Jim Cairns.)



An Earth Team appreciation event was held at the South Coast Resource Conservation and Development Council office in Riverside. Attending (from the left) were Aziz Shiralipour, Brinton Anderson, Ryan Nichols, Narciso Guerrero and Angela Fox.



The Fresno Area office held an Earth Day-Earth Team potluck luncheon to celebrate the many volunteers that assist their field offices throughout the year. A special treat was to have Clarence Finch (seated), a previous soil conservationist, attend. It is reported he is still actively excited about conservation and shares his enthusiasm with others.

# Oklahoma Celebrates Earth Day and Earth Teams' 25th Anniversary

Submitted by Becka Redding,  
Oklahoma State Earth Team Volunteer Coordinator



Vjg"uvchh"qh"vjg"Rwtegnn"Hkgnf"QhLeg"kp"OeEnckp"Eqwpv{"jqpqtgf"kvu"Gctvj"Vgc o"xqnpvpggtu"cv"cp"qrgp"jqwug"Crtn"3;0"Tgeqipk|gf"ygtg"Rcv"Okpvqp"kp"vjg"front and Connie Burk, Jaynie Dowdle, and Jovannal White in the back row. Vjg{"ygtg"rtgugpvfg"PTEU"qwwukfg"thermometers for their volunteer work. PTEU"Fkuvtkv"Eqpugtxcvkqpkuv"Ftl"Carol Crouch said at the open house, "We are grateful for the contributions qh"qwt"Gctvj"Vgc o"xqnpvpggtu"Yg"have a big job to do and volunteers are a vital part of our role in getting conservation on the land."

## Sequoyah County 5th Graders Say, "Natural Resource Day Rocks!"

By Audra Fenton, District Conservationist

Vjg"Ucnnkucy."Qmnc0."Pcvtwn" Tguqwtegu"Eqpugtxcvkqp"Ugtxkeg" cpf"vjg"Ugswq{cj"Eqwpv{" Conservation District held its 38vj"cppwcn"Pcvtwn"Tguqwteg" Fc{"hqt"Lhvj"itcfgtu"cv"Dtwuj{" Uvcvg"Rctm"qp"Crtn"4:."42320" Vjg"qdlgev"qh"vjku"gpxtqp o gpvcn" education day was to teach

students an appreciation of the natural resources that sustain life and support mankind's well being. "Uvcvkqpu"ygtg"ocppgf"d{" Gctvj"Vgc o"xqnpvpggt"urgenkuvu" kp"Hqtguvt{"Ycvg"swcnkv{"Uqknu." Gpikpggkpi."Okpg"Uchgv{"Rgnvu" ("Vtcemu."Ygvncpfu."Tge{enkpi"

cpf"Tgrvkngu0"Uvwfgpvu"tqvcvgf." in groups, to each station, many of which included "hands-on learning". "Rctvkekrcpu"uc{"vjg"ygcvjgt" ycu"dgcwkhwn"cpf"353"rctvkekrcpu" left with a greater understanding of their responsibility in caring for their world and the natural resources needed to sustain it. Gctvj"Vgc o"xqnpvpggtu" presenting that day were: Lqgrj"Ycnmgt."Gfyctf" Jgpujcy."NggCp"dwpp."O0L0" Vwtpkruggf."Uvgxg"Gxcpu."Ejcf" Hqtf"cpf"Mc{"Htcpm0"PTEU" staff working that day were: Cwfte"Hgpvqp."Ocv"Vc{nqt." Ueqv"Tqdgvtuqp"cpf"Lcmg" Boyett. Conservation District Uvchh"cuukvki"ygtg"Rcv" Hgptvgu"cpf"ict{"Vc{nqtl}"

Fifth Graders line up at one of the conservation education stations at a recent environmental

education day held in Sallisaw, Okla. in April.

## Bonnie on the Road

""""Pcvkqpcn"Gctvj"Vgc o "Xqnpvggt"  
Nkckuqp"Dqppkg"Cmgn{"eqpfwevgf"  
training in two states this spring.  
In April she was in Wisconsin and  
in May she conducted training in  
Davis, Calif. Allely said both states  
recently selected a new team of  
coordinators and she was pleased  
to travel to their states to offer  
vtckpkpi0""Uwdlgevu"eqxgtgf"kpenwfg<"  
"where to start", the volunteer  
tracking system, recruiting ideas,  
security and developing a business  
plan and budget.



Attending Earth Team training  
in California were (front row)  
Alejandra Luna, state office  
coordinator; Marina Barajas,  
group mentor; Julie Irinco, area  
coordinator; Pamela Hertzler,

state volunteer coordinator.  
Back row: Bonnie Allely, national  
volunteer liaison; and Area  
Coordinators Genett Carstensen  
and Jenna Brazil.

**VolunteerVoice  
is looking for  
articles for our  
next issue.**

Vjg"fgcfnkpg"hqt"uwd o kuukqpu"ku"  
August 20.

Rngcug"ugpf"{qwt"uvqtkgu"cpf"rjqvqu  
to dick.tremain@ia.usda.gov.

Attending Earth Team training in  
Wisconsin were (left to right) Deb  
White, Rachel Geiselman, Bonnie

Allely, Heather Gilbertson, Kim  
Cupery and sitting is Barb Jansen  
and Deb Potts.



# Earth Team Volunteers Improve Tennessee Habitat

*Submitted by: Leon Tillman, West Tennessee Area Volunteer Coordinator*



Earth Team volunteers, members of Boy Scout Troop 55 of Union City, Tenn., pause after planting 900 trees and shrubs for wildlife habitat on land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Participating were (from left to right): NRCS Soil Conservationist

Leon Tillman, Hunter Corley, Erin Morgan, Garrett Hay, Justin Hays, Emanuel Morgan, Karl Ullrich, Brett Gore, Anthony Caldwell, Tristan Decker, Jeffery Hay, Will Riley and NRCS District Conservationist Matthew Denton. Shea Riley is not pictured.



High school forestry students from Obion County signed up as Earth Team volunteers to help another Earth Team volunteer plant 2,500 trees and shrubs on 3.5 acres of his land in Shawtown, Tenn. Larry Finch, Jr., pictured far left, is a farmer and an Earth Team Volunteer. The students planted the trees and shrubs in 40-foot hedgerows in a native warm season grass

field. Pictured are (standing from left to right): Finch, Tyler Fluty, Garrett McDaniel, Clint Tibbs, Gordan Davidson, Alex Anton, Drew Gammons, Corey Luther, Brodie Parrish, Austin Pitts, Jeremy Green, Lucas Garland, Ethan Davis, Chance Williams, Nick Lucas and NRCS District Conservationist Matthew Denton. Kneeling are Devin Cranford and Jacob Daniels.

# The Rincons - An Earth Team Family

by Carol Donzella, Connecticut State Earth Team Volunteer Coordinator

""PTEU"Ncpfuecrg"Ctejkvgev"  
Fernando Rincon is known to be a  
uvtqpi"uwr rqtvg"qh"vjg"Gctvj"Vgc o"  
program. Not only has he promoted  
vjg"Gctvj"Vgc o."dwv"jg"jcu"  
recruited many volunteers over the  
years and has volunteered his time  
and talents to help his colleagues  
and partners.

Volunteerism is a trait that runs  
deep in  
the Rincon  
Family.

Fernando's  
wife, Blanca  
Jaramillo,  
ku"cp"Gctvj"  
Vgc o"  
volunteer  
and has been  
helping out  
at the annual  
Vqwt"fgu"



Blanca Jaramillo

Farms events sponsored by two  
RC&D Councils in Connecticut  
hqt"o cp{"{gctu0"Vjg"Vqwt"fgu"  
Farms is a leisurely bicycle ride  
that takes riders through some of  
Connecticut's most scenic farmland  
with farm stops along the way.  
Riders can purchase items along  
the way and volunteers will pick up  
and deliver the goods back to the  
starting point.

Blanca has helped with the  
setting up and taking down of the  
event, directing riders to parking  
areas and farm stops, serving up  
fresh pies, and riding the routes  
looking for strays or lost riders.  
Ujg"jcu"dggp"cjwig"cuugv"vq"vjg"  
event, and has contributed greatly  
to its success.

Fernando's father, Fernando, is  
cnuq"cp"Gctvj"Vgc o"xqnpvggt"cpf"

has been his son's right hand at a  
number of events. One of senior  
Fernando's fondest memories,  
y jkng"xqnpvggtkpi"cv"vjg"Vqwt"fgu"  
Hct o u."y cu"fktgevkpi"dke{eng"vtchLe"  
with his grandson, Alejandro, at  
one of the farm stops. During the  
Uqvwj"Dtcpej"Rctm"Tkxgt"Vtckn"  
ribbon cutting ceremony, an inner-  
city trail designed by his son, he  
saw that help was needed in setting  
up for the event and jumped right  
kp"ykvjqwv"dgkpi"cumgf0"Rgqrng"  
who saw the senior Fernando in  
action said he was a wizard setting  
up the tents and tables and helped  
carry in the food and drinks for the  
egn gdtcvkqp0"Vjgp"jg"uvqqf"rtqwf n{."  
and clapped loudly, as his son  
received recognition for his work.  
õ Jg"ku"NYC[U"jgnrkpi.õ"uckf"vjg"  
younger Fernando, "I hope to be  
half the father he has been."

And Fernando, the architect, is  
said to have been a huge help to his  
colleagues and partners by offering  
his expertise during the planning  
qh"vjg"Vqwt"fgu"Hct o u"gxgpvu0"  
Gzrgtvu"uc{"vjg"{qwpigt"Hgtpcpfqøu"  
assistance has been invaluable in  
rncppkpi"vjg"e{eng"tqwwgu"hqt"Vqwt"  
des Farms events, and creating  
amazing maps for the riders to  
follow. As a dedicated cyclist,  
and a competitor in triathlons,  
Fernando's experience has helped  
make the event fun for cyclists of  
all levels.

""Vjtggt"qwwgu"ctg"qhhtgfg."c"32"  
o kng."c"47"o kng"cpf"c"84"o kng"qt"  
metric century, so that everyone  
can enjoy the farm tours at their  
own pace.

On the day of the event,  
Fernando volunteers his time by

helping with the set up and taking  
fqyp."fktgevkpi"vtchLe"cpf"tkfkpi"  
along with the cyclists to make sure  
they are on course and having fun.  
"He arrives as the sun is coming  
up," said Mark Cummings, King's  
Mark RC&D Coordinator, "and  
leaves long after the event is over."  
""Vjg"Tkpeqp"hc o kn{"jcu"  
contributed much more than their  
time and talents to our agency  
cpf"rctvpgtu0"Vjgkt"uvtqpi"y qtm"  
ethic, combined with their spirit  
of community, has made them a  
model "volunteer" family. "It's  
wonderful to see a family working  
so close together, supporting  
each other's adventures, and  
celebrating their accomplishments  
cpf"uweeguugö."uckf"Uvcvg"Gctvj"  
Vgc o"Eqqtfkpcvqt"Ectqn"Fqp|gnmc0"  
õVjg"EV"Gctvj"Vgc o"eqwpvu"kvughh"  
very fortunate to have them on our  
team".

*Editor's note: See <http://www.tourdesfarms.org/> for more  
information on Connecticut's Tour des  
Farms.*



Earth Team Volunteer Fernando  
L. Rincon, Sr., shows his Earth  
Team Volunteer certificate to his  
granddaughter Sofia Rincon.

## Amy Plavak Recognized as National Individual Volunteer

*Submitted by: Sara Magenheimer, Oregon State Information Officer*



C o { "Rncxcm

""""""Qtgiqp"PTEU"tgeqipk|gf"C o { "Rncxcm"cu"vjku" { gctøu"y kppgt"qh"vjg" national individual volunteer award. Amy has been working in Washington Eqwpv{."Qtg0."cu"cp"Gctvj"Vgc o " volunteer for the last year.

"Our volunteer program provides a valuable connection and opportunity for communities across the state to participate in natural resource o cpc i g o gpv.ö"uckf"Qtgiqp"PTEU"Uvcvg" Conservationist Ron Alvarado. "We thank Amy, and all of our volunteers for their dedication and work to conserve and enhance the natural resources in Oregon."

An awards ceremony was held April 48."kp"Ycu j k p i v q p " F 0 E U " q p " v j g " r c v k q " q h " W U F C " Y j k v g p " D w k n f k p i " v q " j q p q t " v j g " p c v k q p c n " G c t v j " V g c o " c y c t f " y k p p g t u 0 " C " local recognition ceremony was also j g n f " c v " v j g " J k n n u d q t q " W U F C " U g t x k e g " Center May 5 where Ron Alvarado,

Qtgiqp"PTEU"Uvcvg"Eqpugtxcvkqpkuv." o c f g " c p " c y c t f " r t g u g p v c v k q p " v q " R n c x c m 0 """"""Rncxcm"dgi cp" j g t " x q n w p v g g t " u g t x k e g " y k v j " v j g " P T E U " G c t v j " V g c o " X q n w p v g g t " R t q i t c o " k p " 4 2 2 ; " c u " c " Y g v n c p f u " T g u v q t c v k q p " R t q l g e v " O c p c i g t 0 " R n c x c m " produced budgets, contract documents and a contribution agreement request h q t " v j g " 5 9 7 / c e t g " J w v e j k p u q p " Y g v n c p f " T g u g t x g " R t q i t c o " \* Y T R + " r t q l g e v 0 " U j g " also coordinated a team assembled by v j g " n q e c n " P T E U " F k u v t k e v " E q p u g t x c v k q p k u v " F g c p " O q d g t i " v q " r t q f w e g " v j g " P T E U " Y c u j k p i v q p " E q w p v { " N q p i " T c p i g " U v t c v g i { 0 " """"""Tgegpvn{."Rncxcm"y q t m g f " collaboratively as part of a multi-agency multi-disciplinary team to produce c p " C i t k e w n v w t c n " Y c v g t " G p j c p e g o g p v " R t q i t c o " r t q r q u c n " h q t " q x g t " & 3 0 6 " o k n n k q p " in funding for water quality conservation k p " v j g " w r r g t " V w e n c v k p " c p f " I c n g u " E t g g m " watersheds.

## Illinois Recognizes Della Moen

*Submitted by Mary Hess, Illinois Earth Team State Volunteer Coordinator*

Della Moen holds an award recognizing her as the Earth Team volunteer with the most hours donated in the State of Illinois. She was given the award by District Conservationist Jim Ritterbusch at a recent Stephenson County meeting.

Moen is a long time Earth Team volunteer in the Freeport, Ill., field office. She writes a weekly conservation column which is featured in area newspapers.

[Get Volunteers Involved!](#)





# Tennessee Earth Team Volunteers "Give a Hand" on Earth Day

by Wendy Rigsby, District Secretary, Humphreys County Soil Conservation District

29th at the Blue Creek Nature Center located at the Humphreys County Agriculture Center in Waverly.

A variety of state agencies, project by setting up "hands-on"

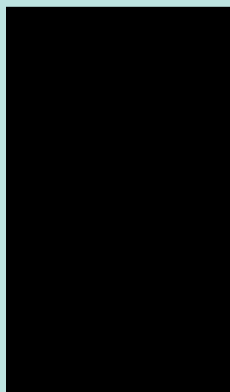
also served as nature walk guides.



Earth Team volunteers and friends celebrate Earth Day in Waverly, Tenn., by "giving a hand" to environmental education.

## National Staff Changes

Andy Bingham recently joined



Andy Bingham

replaces Venessa

Bingham was born in Melcher, Iowa, and graduated from

Ogne jgt/Fcmcu" Jki j"Uejqqn"kp" 42230""

Bingham and his wife, Jami, moved back to Iowa and settled on

Volunteer Coordinator Michele Gikpqktg"cpf"rtqxf"gt"Vgc o" cpf"NCPFECTG"ewuvq o gt" service.

"We are thrilled to have Andy lqkp"qwt"vgc o."uckf"Gikpqktg0"" "He brings to us an extremely wide breadth of knowledge and experience. He will allow us

Andy can be reached by email at andy.bingham@ia.usda.gov.



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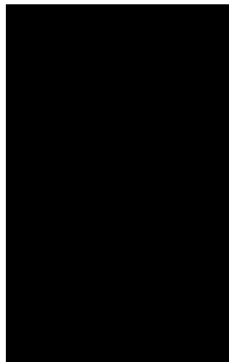
# Michele's Column: Change!

by Michele Eginore, NRCS National Earth Team Volunteer Coordinator

Do you know what an ezine<sup>3</sup>kuA"" [qw"ctg"tgcfkpi"qpg0"" What about blog<sup>2</sup>, Craigslist<sup>5</sup> qt"Vykvgt<sup>4</sup>A""Vjgug"yqtfu"ctg" new to our language and they represent a change in the way we communicate, interact and how we do business.

Do you remember two years ago, during the presidential election, we were constantly reminded "change" is a good thing? Change means we are trying to improve, grow and get better.

Uw o ogtvk o g"ku"vjg"vk o g"qh" {gct" many of us see changes taking place in our personal lives. We attend weddings, graduations and watch our children advance to middle school, high school, move to college or to jobs in far away cities.



Michele Eginore

In the work place some will say we have seen a lot of change take rnceg"cu"y gnn0""PTEU" g o r nq { ggu" enter their time cards on computers, view their performance appraisals, vcmg"encuugu." o cmg" I qxVtkr"vtcxgn" arrangements and adjust their Vj tkhv"Ucxkpi u"tgvtg o gpv"ceeqpvu" all online. Chief Dave White even talks to us using streaming internet video technology.

Change will take place whether y g"y cpv"kv"qt"pqv0"Vj g"swgukqp" dgeq o gu"y jgvjgt"y g."cu"Gctvj" Vgc o "xqnpvggtu"cpf"PTEU" employees, embrace this change or be left behind by a host of new inventions and innovations. """"Cv"vjg"Gctvj"Vgc o "qhLeg"kp"Fgu" Moines, we are embracing change. We have the new volunteer tracking system and Bonnie Allely and I get emails on both our computers cpf"qwt"Dncemdgtt{"rjqpgu0""Gxgp" Rwdnke"Chhcktu"Urgekcnkv"Fkem" Vtg o ckp"ku"y tkvki"Gctvj"Vgc o " stories for traditional audiences and pg y"qpgu"cu"y gnn0""Nqgm"hqt"Fkem0u" y qtm"vq"cr rgct"qp"vjg"WUFC"dnqi"

(<http://www.usda.gov/blog/>) and on partner websites ([www.serve.gov](http://www.serve.gov) and [www.takepride.gov](http://www.takepride.gov)). """"Ejcpig"ku"eq okpi0""Rngcug" embrace the change going on around us. Coordinators, log on to the Volunteer Data Base and ensure all our volunteers and their hours are properly recorded. Ask PTEU" g o r nq { ggu"vq"ujctg"vjgkt" technology skills and tools with qwt"Gctvj"Vgc o "xqnpvggtu0""Ngv" vjg"Gctvj"Vgc o "xqnpvggtu"mpqy" their work is both helping the environment and upgrading their lqd"umknnu0""Ujctg"vjg"uvqt{"vjcv"vjg" vgejpqni{"PTEU"wugu"ku"cy c{"hqt" all of us to better help people help the land.

Who knows? We may soon be tgcflkpi"cdqww{"qwt"Gctvj"Vgc o " successes in one of Dick's ezine, dnqi."qt"Vykvgt"rquvu0

## Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup>An electronic newsletter or an electronic magazine

<sup>2</sup><http://www.usda.gov/blog/>

<sup>3</sup><http://desmoines.craigslist.org/vol/>

<sup>4</sup> [http://twitter.com/USDA\\_NRCS](http://twitter.com/USDA_NRCS)

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